

## **DRAINAGE BOARD MEETING**

**December 7, 2020 – 12:00 P.M.**

**Newton County Government Center, Morocco, IN**

The Newton County Drainage Board met on December 7, 2020 at 12:00 P.M. at the Newton County Government Center with the following persons present: **Board Members – Mickey Read, Scott Carlson and Tim Drenth; Surveyor-Elect – Steve Snell; Secretary - Debra Chapman; Drainage Board Attorney – Candace Armstrong; Christopher B Burke Eng – Jason Durr; Contractor - Brent Skrzekut; Landowner – Rick Garmong .**

**Meeting was opened by Chairman Read.**

**Progress Reports – Jason Durr, Christopher B. Burke Engineering** – Jason reviewed the current status of Hidden Pines Ph I & Ph II, Valley Forge, and Lawler projects. No action necessary

**Minutes – October 5, 2020** – Tim motioned to approve with second from Scott. Motion carried 3-0 and minutes signed. **November 2, 2020** – Scott motioned to approve with second from Mickey. Motioned carried 3-0 and minutes signed.

**Brunton-Decker Reconstruction** – LiDAR watershed approved by board on 8/3/20 was verified during field review and is confirmed as presented. **Scott motioned to accept the surveyor's report and recommended reconstruction rate of \$12.40/ac with \$25 annual minimum for 8 yrs. and to schedule the Brunton-Decker for a reconstruction hearing. Tim seconded the motion and motion carried 3-0. Scott motioned to schedule hearing for Brunton-Decker Tile on ~~Monday, February 15<sup>th</sup> (holiday)~~ Tuesday, February 16<sup>th</sup> @ noon at the government center with a second from Tim. Motioned carried 3-0.**

**Bid Opening – Thomas Lateral to Narrows** – Surveyor estimate \$25,124.64; Watkins & Associates \$1,800.00, Dirt Diggers \$10,488.00, KB & E II \$4,000.00. **Tim motioned to accept all bids and award the bid to Watkins & Associates as long as it meets the specs – if not, then to the next lowest bidder. Scott seconded motion and motion carried 3-0. Rebecca Spitler Open** – Surveyor's estimate \$74,330.18; Watkins & Associates \$33,560.00, Dirt Diggers \$20,980.00, JD Excavating \$54,450.00, KB & E II \$24,000.00. **Scott motioned to accept all bids and award to Dirt Diggers as long as it meets specs. Tim seconded motion and motion carried 3-0.**

**Obstruction in Easement – Thomas Lateral to Narrows – Irrigation Pivot – Variance (Newton Co Drainage Board, Surveyor & Landowner)** – Snell explained that there is an irrigation pivot in the drainage easement and it was suggested by Surveyor Knochel that a variance agreement be established between the three parties. There is already a statute in place regarding the easement and things in the way. No action necessary.

**O'Brien Tile Headwall Apron Repair** – Surveyor Knochel asked Yoder Drainage to give estimate to repair headwall. Estimate presented for \$3,800.00. Scott asked that topic be tabled until Snell has opportunity to check situation.

**Financial Reports** – Report presented for General Drain Improvement Fund, Thomas Lateral to Narrows & Rebecca Spitler.

**Sign Contract** – Contract was signed for Valley Forge Lateral to Hibler.

**John Weiss Tile** – Surveyor Knochel had Geri & Steves Carpentry repair the Weiss Tile which does not have its own assessment. The Weiss Tile is regulated and flows into the Stack Weiss Ditch. The Weiss Tile landowners pay assessments into Stack Weiss Ditch. **Scott motioned to pay the invoice in the amount of \$1359.00 to Geri & Steves Carpentry from the Stack Weiss Ditch fund. Tim seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.**

**Other Matters – 2021 Meeting Dates & Location** – It was recommended that the drainage board meet the middle of January rather than the beginning to give the new surveyor an opportunity to get settled.

The next meetings will be Tuesday, January 19<sup>th</sup> and February 15<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> for hearing and meeting. Both will be held at the government center at noon. **Discussion on bi-county drains and agenda for 12/8/20 bi-county meeting. VS Engineering On-Call Contract** – Deb presented the on-call contract from VS Engineering to the board. Scott made motion to accept the on-call contract dependent upon review by the drainage board attorney with a second from Tim. Motion carried 3-0.

**Tim motioned to adjourn with a second from Scott. Adjourned.**

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Mickey Read, Chrm.

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Scott Carlson

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Tim Drenth